



NEWS RELEASE

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Woman Pleads No Contest to Vehicular Manslaughter in Death of Friends

A 23-year-old woman has pleaded no contest to vehicular manslaughter after her car struck a tree, killing two passengers and injuring two others, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jeanette Romero entered her plea late yesterday to two counts of vehicular manslaughter and also admitted great bodily injury allegations. She is expected to be sentenced to two years and eight months in state prison on Jan. 20.

Deputy District Attorney Colby Cano said Romero had been at a downtown Los Angeles club with four of her girlfriends on Nov. 3, 2013, celebrating 22-year-old Ana Cuadra's birthday. Romero was driving northbound on the 110 Freeway when she hit a curb at a turnout, striking a chain link fence and a tree, the prosecutor said.

Blanca Belman-Almanza, 23, who was in the front passenger seat, was killed, as well as Cuadra, who was seated in the rear of the car. Two other women were seriously injured.

The case was investigated by the California Highway Patrol.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.